

25. The inventory management system of claim 22, wherein the purchase order receiver interface module selects, transforms, validates and posts candidate data into accounting system structures.

26. A method for managing materials, the method comprising the step of:  
interfacing an inventory sales and management system and an accounting system resident on different hardware and operating systems.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the step of interfacing comprises:  
taking candidate transactions from the inventory sales and management system, transforming and validating said candidate transactions into a format/content required by the accounting system and passing said candidate transactions to the accounting system.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein the step of interfacing comprises:  
taking from the inventory sales and management system transactions which add cost after receipt of inventory; and,  
selecting, transforming, validating, and passing said transactions into an appropriate accounting system table located in the accounting system.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein the step of interfacing comprises selecting, transforming, validating and posting candidate data into accounting system structures located in the accounting system.

30. A method for forecasting future material needs, the method comprising the steps of:  
creating a customer demand forecast;  
transforming the customer demand forecast into a materials requirements;  
making an inventory query; and,  
fulfilling the materials requirements.